



Local Public Safety Coordinating Council
Director Malcolm McDonald, Chair
Vacant, Vice-Chair

Local Public Safety Coordinating Council Meeting

September 23rd, 2024

12:00 – 1:30 pm

Development Services Building, Rm 119/120, 150 Beavercreek Rd, Oregon City, OR 97045

Members present: Malcolm McDonald, Mary Rumbaugh, Adam Freer, Christina McMahan, District Attorney John Wentworth, and Rod Cook.

Guests present: Elizabeth White, Bill Stewart, Kristin Gibson, Undersheriff Jenna Morrison, Undersheriff Jesse Ashby, Manuel Padilla, Kimberlee DeSantis and Glen Suchanek.

Welcome and Introduction:

- Chair Malcolm McDonald welcomed members, invited guests and members of the public.

Update: CJC Data Dashboards

- The Chair presented dashboard data from the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) on Possession of Controlled Substances (PCS) bookings, comparing trends from 2018 through the post-Measure 110 period and the COVID-19 pandemic. Measure 110 decriminalized certain drug offenses, shifting focus toward treatment instead of incarceration.
- During the first week of September, 227 PCS-related bookings were recorded, with 66 involving only PCS charges. The second week saw 207 bookings (56 PCS-only), and the third week reached 92 cases, 26 of which involved PCS alone.
- Chair McDonald noted the data only reflected individuals who were booked into jail, excluding those who received citations without arrest. He added that the CJC dashboards are updated weekly to track these trends and perform best on Microsoft Edge due to performance issues with Google Chrome.

Update: Clackamas County's Deflection Program

- Bill Stewart provided an update on the implementation of the deflection program. Deflection allows individuals to be referred to services without facing criminal charges, while conditional discharge lets them accept probation conditions without pleading guilty. If they meet these conditions, the charges are dropped, preventing further legal consequences.
- Bill highlighted the importance of the deflection program and conditional discharge in reducing the number of individuals entering the criminal justice system. By mid-September, the total referrals had increased to 21, with an additional four cases referred on the day of the meeting.
- Bill anticipated the program would reach 30 to 35 referrals by the end of the month. He noted most referrals so far involved individuals who had been arrested and booked, with

citation-only cases still being processed. Impact court sessions were scheduled for September 26 and October 10, providing opportunities to assess the program's initial outcomes.

- Bill explained that part of the outreach strategy involved attending law enforcement roll calls to provide updates and encourage more referrals. He stressed the importance of building trust with participants, noting that one-time contact is insufficient and that ongoing relationships are necessary to support recovery and prevent recidivism.
- Mary Rumbaugh discussed the staffing challenges facing the program, particularly in hiring program navigators through the nonprofit Bridges to Change. Although two navigators were intended for outreach roles, the hiring process had stalled due to difficulty finding candidates with the required experience. The team discussed increasing salaries and responsibilities to attract more qualified candidates. Mary also mentioned that the program had budgeted for a supervisor to oversee the navigators and help design the system. The supervisor will monitor referral patterns to determine when referrals are most likely and adjust staffing accordingly, including covering evenings and weekends if needed.
- Mary noted differing opinions on mandating peer support. Some substance use disorder treatment providers expressed concern that requiring peer connections might hinder trust-building with participants. Mary and Bill will continue to evaluate the approach and make adjustments as needed.
- Chair McDonald introduced updates on the 23-hour stabilization center, which will provide short-term care for individuals in crisis, reducing emergency room visits and jail admissions. He emphasized the need to differentiate between mental health crises and substance use crises, as these issues often overlap but require different interventions. Effective communication with providers and the public will be critical to ensuring proper use of the center. This initiative is part of the county's shift toward a recovery-oriented system of care, focusing on meeting individuals where they are and providing continuous support for long-term recovery.
- The Chair also discussed a collaborative governance research survey, part of the Atlas of Collaboration project—a partnership between Portland State University and Syracuse University. The survey aims to assess public safety efforts across Oregon's counties, including the effectiveness of LPSCC's initiatives in Clackamas County. He encouraged LPSCC members to participate.

Discussion: LPSCC Support of Recovery Center

- Mary provided an update on the recovery center project, led by Cindy Becker from the County Administrator's Office. She noted there is an opportunity for LPSCC to submit a letter of support, which would enhance the center's funding applications. Mary noted the project aligns with the county's commitment to a recovery-oriented system of care.
- Several members requested more information about the center before approving the letter of support. Chair McDonald reminded the group that a quorum is required to approve the letter.

Other:

- Chair McDonald discussed the need for updated data to assess the impact of recent investments, including funding for the local Behavioral Health Resource Network (BHRN).

While a system-wide review was conducted in 2021, it did not capture the effects of new funding and programs. A focused assessment will be conducted in November to identify remaining service gaps, guiding future funding requests to address unmet needs.

- The Chair noted that CJC partners will continue refining strategies based on new data and feedback from providers. The November meeting will help align funding strategies with community needs to ensure effective resource deployment.
- The Chair stated construction on the recovery center and stabilization center is underway, and ongoing updates will be provided. He noted the importance of tracking progress and adjusting strategies based on data and participant feedback. Identifying barriers early will help ensure the success of these initiatives.

Public Comment:

- None.